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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	10/626,954
		Filing Date	July 25, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Peter Strauss et al.
		Art Unit	3653
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	25	Attorney Docket Number	A-3780

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Remarks

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Machine processing flat printing materials and having an auxiliary stack carrier

The invention relates to a machine processing flat printing materials, in particular a sheet processing rotary press, having at least one processing station in the form of a printing unit, a feeder which loads the processing station with the sheets, a deliverer that combines the processed sheets into stacks, and having an auxiliary stack carrier which can be displaced, in an insertion direction, from a standby position into an operational position and vice versa, and which comprises supporting members which follow one another in the insertion direction and are directly articulated on one another by means of axially parallel rotary joints.

A machine equipped in this way has been disclosed in DE 42 15 791 A1. In this machine, deposition elements in the form of chains are provided to temporarily carry a part amount of the printing materials, said deposition elements comprising inner and outer chain links which are connected to one another in articulated fashion via pins. The outer chain links have a U-shaped cross section, project beyond the inner chain links by half the pitch of the chain, and have front sides which are rounded off starting from the closed side of the U-shaped cross section toward the respective other front side. When used as intended, the chains are supported at their respective ends such that the open sides of the U-shaped cross sections point downward. In this case, the chains act as rodlike supports when they are loaded from their top side. Each of the chains wraps around a transport sprocket and the free end of the respective chain run running away from said transport

sprocket is supported by means of a rod which holds the chains in a stretched position until they reach a crossmember supporting them in an operational position. Said rod is moved back into an initial position of the rod once the chain has been supported by the crossmember. It is possible to accommodate the known chains in an extremely spacesaving manner when they are not being used for a stack change.

The invention is based on the object of equipping the machine mentioned in the introduction with an auxiliary stack carrier comprising a number of supporting members which is firstly flexible and secondly is capable of being displaced from a standby position into an operational position while being self-supporting in a stretched position.

In order to achieve this object, the supporting members mentioned in the introduction are configured such that they have extensions projecting beyond their rotary joints, and a respective extension pointing counter to the insertion direction engages underneath the extension pointing in the insertion direction of the next but one supporting member trailing in the insertion direction.

Depending on the geometry of the supporting members, an auxiliary stack carrier configured in this way represents, in the operational position of said supporting members, an auxiliary stack supporting table or an arrangement of individual rodlike supporting elements.

For non-stop operation at the deliverer, it is in principle possible to use such an auxiliary stack carrier irrespectively of whether it forms an auxiliary stack supporting table or individual rodlike supporting elements in the operational position. For use for non-stop operation at the feeder, however, the variant forming rodlike supporting elements is preferably provided, and the geometry and the mutual distance between these supporting elements are provided such that said supporting elements can be inserted into grooves which are customarily provided on stack underlays in the form of grooved system pallets.

In any case, however, in order to move an auxiliary stack carrier according to the invention into its operating position, there is no need for a supporting device which is moved jointly with the auxiliary stack carrier along the path of the auxiliary stack carrier in an insertion direction from the standby position into the operating position and holds said auxiliary stack carrier in a stretched position during this movement.

Furthermore, the flexibility of the auxiliary stack carrier, when it is used for non-stop operation in the feeder, is of particular advantage to the extent that the installation space below conventional feed tables is sufficient to accommodate the auxiliary stack carrier in it in its standby position.

The features of the subject matter of the invention and of its refinements can be gathered from the appended drawings and the explanations in the following text which refer to them.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 shows a sheet processing rotary press having a feeder and a deliverer in a schematic representation in which, by way of example, the equipping of the feeder with an auxiliary stack carrier is only indicated to the extent that a guide path for said auxiliary stack carrier can be seen,

Fig. 2 shows part of the feeder in an illustration which is simplified and enlarged compared with fig. 1,

Fig. 3 shows a side view of a supporting member of the auxiliary stack carrier,

Fig. 4a shows a view of a supporting member in the direction of the arrow IV in fig. 3 in the case of individual supporting elements being constructed by means of the supporting members,

Fig. 4b shows a view of a supporting member in the direction of the arrow IV in fig. 3 in the case of an auxiliary stack supporting table being constructed by means of the supporting members,

Fig. 5 shows an end section, pointing in the insertion direction, of the auxiliary stack carrier in a stretched position and a support on which the end section of the auxiliary

stack carrier is supported in its operating position,

Fig. 6 shows the auxiliary stack carrier in a position pushed into a guide,

Fig. 7 shows a representation, corresponding to fig. 6, in the case of a guide which is different from that in fig. 6,

Fig. 8 shows, in plan view, a detail from the auxiliary stack carrier in the case of it being constructed in the form of individual rodlike supporting elements.

The sheet processing rotary press which is schematically represented in fig. 1 comprises a press section 1 with, by way of example, two processing stations in the form of printing units 1.1 and 1.2, so that it is possible to print two colors with it. A further printing unit must be provided for each further color. For further process steps, such as varnishing, intermediate drying, perforating, etc., in each case a further processing station must be provided. In the case shown by way of example, the printing units 1.1 and 1.2 operate according to the wet offset process and accordingly each comprise an inking unit 1.3 and a damping unit 1.4, a plate cylinder 1.5 connected thereto, a blanket cylinder 1.6 rolling on the latter when in operation, and an impression cylinder 1.7 guiding a respective sheet.

In order to load the printing units 1.1 and 1.2 with sheets, a feeder 2 is provided which picks up a

respective uppermost sheet 2.2 from a stack 2.3 by means of a separating device 2.1 and transfers it to a transporting and aligning device 2.4 which aligns a respective preceding sheet of the sheets separated to form an overlapping formation against leading edge stops and against at least one lateral stop, after said sheet has been transported toward said leading edge stops, in particular by means of a suction belt table.

An oscillating pregripper 1.8, assigned to the first processing station, in this case the printing unit 1.1, accepts the respectively aligned sheet 2.2 and transfers it to a feed drum 1.9 which for its part transfers it to the impression cylinder 1.7 of the printing unit 1.1. After passing the press nip of said printing unit 1.1, the impression cylinder 1.7 of the latter transfers the sheet 2.2 to a transfer device, connected between the impression cylinders 1.7 of the two printing units 1.1 and 1.2, in the form of a sheet guiding drum 1.10. In the case of a press which is configured for recto and verso printing operation, a turner device which can be switched between recto printing operation and recto and verso printing operation is provided instead. The impression cylinder 1.7 of the printing unit 1.2 accepts the sheet 2.2 from the sheet guiding drum 1.10, guides it through the further press nip and then transfers it to an endless conveyor 3.5, circulating during operation, of a deliverer 3 which ultimately forms a printed product stack 3.2 from the respective sheets 2.2.

During continuous printing, the production level, i.e. the vertical position of the respectively uppermost sheet 2.2, at the stack 2.3 in the feeder 2 and the

drop height of the released sheets 2.2 in the deliverer 3 are maintained by corresponding adjustment of respective platforms 2.5 and 3.3 carrying the stack 2.3 and the printed product stack 3.2, respectively, by means of respective lifting/lowering units, of which units only the lifting/lowering chains 2.6 and 3.4 carrying the platforms 2.5 and 3.3 are shown.

As already indicated, it is possible to use an auxiliary stack carrier of the type explained in greater detail in the following text for the non-stop operation of both the feeder and the deliverer. However, in the following text, corresponding equipping of the feeder is discussed by way of example.

To this extent, fig. 2 shows a part of the feeder in accordance with fig. 1 which is equipped, in particular, with an auxiliary stack carrier 20. As will be explained in the following text, the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is firstly flexible, or articulated to be more precise, and secondly it is possible to move it into a stretched position. Its flexibility is used to accommodate it in a spacesaving manner in a standby position - in this case underneath the transporting and aligning device 2.4. It can be displaced from this standby position in an insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 into an operating position in which its end pointing in the insertion direction is supported on a crossmember 2.7 which can be raised and lowered (cf. fig. 1). After it has been used, i.e. after the largely processed stack 2.3 has been combined, as is known, with a new main stack, the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is displaced back into its standby position again.

The auxiliary stack carrier 20 comprises supporting members which follow one another in the insertion direction and are directly articulated on one another by means of axially parallel rotary joints, and can be moved successively into a stretched position, in particular from its end pointing in the insertion direction, such that the selfsupporting length of the section in the stretched position is always increased in the adjusting direction by the extent of one supporting member, starting from the end pointing in the insertion direction, as will be explained in greater detail later.

If the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is tensioned horizontally at its end pointing in the insertion direction, said auxiliary stack carrier (in a state which is otherwise unsupported) assumes a polygonally sloping shape brought about by the geometry of the supporting members, i.e. when it is not moved into a stretched position, the auxiliary stack carrier 20 then lies within two curved enveloping surfaces, of which at least the lower one is configured, in a preferred refinement, in physical terms by means of a guide track 22 which thus rises convexly.

If the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is arranged with its end pointing in the insertion direction facing away from the printing unit 1.1 (cf. fig. 1), a lower end of this guide track 22 thus faces the printing unit 1.1 and said guide track and thus the auxiliary stack carrier 20 supported on the latter in the standby position are advantageously inserted into the installation space, which is present in any case in

conventional sheet processing rotary presses and decreases in height from the stack 2.3 toward the printing unit 1.1, underneath the feed table of the transporting and aligning device 2.4 (cf. fig. 1).

As indicated in fig. 2, the auxiliary stack carrier 20 (represented here only as a partial length of the same), for its intended use, is pushed through a guide 23 in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 from its standby position in which it is supported on the guide track 22. The guide 23 is configured, as will be explained in more detail later, such that it then holds the section of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 which has been pushed through it in a stretched position. The guide track 22 arranged upstream of the guide 23 is assigned to the guide 23 in such a way that the supporting members (which will likewise be explained in greater detail later) of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 enter the guide 23 as they leave the guide track 22. The guide track 22 thus supports the auxiliary stack carrier 20 in its standby position. The guide 23 and a component forming the guide track 22 preferably form a structural unit which can be raised and lowered, in order to provide the height adjustability which is necessary, as is known, for non-stop operation, by means of an auxiliary stack lifting/lowering unit, of which here only a lifting/lowering chain 24 and, by way of example, guide profiles 25 guiding the guide 23 are indicated.

Fig. 3 shows an exemplary embodiment of a supporting member 26 of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 in a side view corresponding to the views in fig. 1 and fig. 2 and oriented, with respect to the insertion direction,

in accordance with the indicated direction arrow 21 from the standby position into the operating position. It comprises a base body with a first joint bore 27 at a first end, pointing in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21, of the base body and with a second joint bore 28 at a second end, facing away from the first end, of the base body. When a plurality of such successive supporting members 26 are in a state in which they are directly articulated on one another, the abovementioned joint bores 27 and 28, together with joint pins 29 inserted into them, form a first rotary joint 30 and a second rotary joint 31 with mutually parallel joint axes (cf. fig. 5).

The supporting member 26 has a first extension 32, which protrudes beyond the first rotary joint 30 or the first joint bore 27, i.e. points in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 when used as intended, and forms a first end of the supporting member 26, and a second extension 33, which protrudes beyond the second rotary joint 31 or the second joint bore 28, i.e. points in a direction counter to the insertion direction, and forms a second end of the supporting member 26. In a section of their highest structural height in the intended position, the base body and the two extensions 32 and 33 occupy a space between two horizontal planes which are spaced apart by the structural height, an underside of the second extension 33 and of an adjoining section of the base body lying in the lower of the two planes, and an upper side of the first extension 32 and an upper side of an adjoining part of the base body lying in the upper plane. An underside of the first extension 32 and an upper side of the second extension 33 and of an

adjoining section of the base body lie in a horizontal intermediate plane which extends between the two abovementioned planes.

In order to articulate a plurality of such supporting members 26 on one another in a directly successive manner, the second joint bore 28 of a supporting member 26 is made to coincide with the first joint bore 27 of a supporting member 26 which is trailing it, with respect to the insertion direction, in accordance with the direction arrow 21, and the first joint bore 27 is made to coincide with the second joint bore 28 of a leading supporting member 26.

As can be seen from fig. 4a, in the case of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 being configured such that it forms rodlike supporting elements in the operating position, the widths of the respective second extension 33 and an adjoining section of the base body are reduced on both sides for this purpose, and the first extension 32 and an adjoining section of the base body are provided centrally, from their underside, with a recess 34 such that a supporting member 26 preceding in the insertion direction 21 can be inserted into a subsequent supporting member 26 until its second joint bore 28 is aligned with the first joint bore 27. Moreover, the upper sides of the second extension 33 and of the recess 34 are provided with a contour which makes it possible for the supporting members 26 to assume mutual pivoting positions (cf. fig. 6).

Furthermore, as can be seen from fig. 5, the base body and the two extensions 32 and 33 are configured such that a respective second extension 33 of the mutually

articulated supporting members 26 in each case engages underneath a first extension 32 of the next but one supporting member 26 which is trailing with respect to the insertion direction, in accordance with the direction arrow 21.

As can furthermore be seen from fig. 3, the recess 34, at its end facing the second joint bore 28, forms an aperture 35 which penetrates the upper side of the supporting member 26, and the second extension 33, at its free end, has, following a depression 36 provided to permit the abovementioned mutual pivoting positions of the supporting members 26, a stop 37 with an upper side which forms a first stop surface 38 lying in the intermediate plane already mentioned. The distances, firstly between the stop 37 and the second joint bore 28 and secondly between the aperture 35 and the first joint bore 27, and the geometry of the stop 37 and aperture 35 are selected such that, in the mutually articulated state of the supporting members 26, the stop 37 of a supporting member 26 can penetrate the aperture 35 of the supporting member 26 trailing it in the insertion direction.

As can be seen in fig. 5, the length of the first extension 32 is selected such that its underside, likewise lying in the abovementioned intermediate plane as already stated, rests, in the stretched position of the auxiliary stack carrier 20, on the first stop surface 38 of a next but one supporting member 26 which precedes it in the insertion direction 26 and thus forms a second stop surface 39.

Otherwise, the geometry of the supporting members depends on whether they are to form an auxiliary stack table or individual rodlike supporting elements 20′ in the operating position (cf. fig. 8).

Rodlike supporting elements 20′ can be produced with a geometry corresponding to fig. 4a, while an auxiliary stack table can be produced with a geometry corresponding to fig. 4b, figs. 4a and 4b each showing a view of the underside of a supporting member.

Fig. 6 shows an exemplary embodiment of the guide, which has already been mentioned and will now be explained in greater detail, in the form of a guide 23′ and its interaction with the supporting members 26′ in accordance with fig. 4b which are designed here, by way of example, to produce an auxiliary stack table. Referring to the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21, the guide 23′ is arranged downstream of the guide track 22 (not shown here) (cf. fig. 2) and in the present case comprises an upper pressure piece arrangement 23.1 and a lower pressure piece arrangement 23.2 which are arranged on the abovementioned auxiliary stack lifting/lowering unit and form a horizontal gap 40 between themselves.

In the case, used as a basis by way of example, of configuring the supporting members 26′ in accordance with fig. 4b - to produce an auxiliary stack supporting table - the pressure piece arrangements 23.1 and 23.2 can be restricted to lateral regions of the supporting members 26′ with respect to the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21, or it is possible to arrange a number of upper and lower

pressure piece arrangements 23.1 and 23.2 distributed across the width B (cf. fig. 4b) of the supporting members 26'.

The geometry of the gap 40 is selected such that, while the supporting members 26' are being pushed through the gap 40, the first stop surface 38 of a supporting member 26' preceding in the insertion direction is constantly kept positively in contact with the second stop surface 39 of the next but one supporting member 26' trailing in the insertion direction by the upper and lower pressure piece arrangement 23.1 and 23.2.

The gap 40 is preceded by a horizontal aligning surface which is configured, in the present example, on the lower pressure piece arrangement 32.2 and, in another refinement, can also be provided on the guide track 22 indicated in fig. 2. The aligning surface 41 serves for preliminarily aligning the supporting members 26' in their stretched position, in which position they then enter the gap 40.

By means of the mutual contact, imposed in the gap 40, of the first stop surface 38 of one of the supporting members 26' against the second stop surface 39 of a next but one trailing supporting member 26' with respect to the former supporting member 26', a mutual pivoting movement is precluded of those supporting members 26' which leave the gap 40 again as they are pushed through the latter. The auxiliary stack carrier 20 thus leaves the gap 40 in a stretched position of the supporting members 26', so that the selfsupporting section of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is

successively lengthened by a supporting member 26' as the supporting members 26' are pushed through.

Fig. 7 shows a guide 23, which has already been indicated in fig. 2 and is configured differently than the guide 23', and its interaction with the supporting members 26 provided here, by way of example, to form rodlike supporting elements 20'.

Instead of the pressure piece arrangements 23.1 and 23.2 forming rigid guide surfaces, in the present exemplary embodiment this guide 23 comprises four clamping rolls 23.3, mounted on the abovementioned auxiliary stack lifting/lowering unit and set against the upper side of the rodlike supporting element 20', and two supporting rolls 23.4 which are likewise mounted on the auxiliary stack lifting/lowering unit and support the supporting element 20' on its underside. The supporting roll 23.4 which is arranged upstream with respect to the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 is spaced apart from the other of the two supporting rolls 23.4 to such an extent that the supporting members 26 are aligned in their stretched position before they come into contact with the clamping rolls 23.3 as said supporting members are displaced in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21. Moreover, the arrangement of the clamping rolls 23.3 and the supporting rolls 23.4 is selected such that, as the supporting members 26 are pushed through the guide 23, the first stop surface 38, while passing the clamping rolls 23.3, of a supporting member preceding in the insertion direction is constantly kept positively in contact with the second stop surface 39 of the next but one supporting

member 26 trailing in the insertion direction by the clamping rolls 23.3 and the supporting rolls 23.4. With regard to production tolerances, the clamping rolls 23.3 or the supporting rolls 23.4 are preferably arranged and mounted such that they can be deflected by the supporting members 26 or 26' counter to a restoring force.

The auxiliary stack lifting/lowering unit, which has already been mentioned in connection with fig. 2, furthermore comprises, as indicated in fig. 1, a crossmember 2.7 which can be raised and lowered and can be seen in cross section in fig. 1 and on which the end, pointing in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21, of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is supported in the operating position of the latter.

As can be seen in fig. 5 for the case of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 being configured by means of individual rodlike supporting elements 20', corresponding support is preferably provided by means of in each case one terminal supporting member in the form of an end member 26.1 of a supporting element 20'. This end member 26.1 is configured analogously to the supporting members 26 merely in a section facing a trailing supporting member 26 and preferably has a chamfer provided on its underside at its other end, namely the free end, which chamfer permits reliable placement on the crossmember 2.7 when moving the auxiliary stack carrier 20 into its operating position. After the auxiliary stack carrier 20 has been moved into its operating position, there remains in the region of the other end of said auxiliary stack carrier

an adequate number of supporting members 26 or 26′ in the region of influence of the guide 23 or 23′ such that that part of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 which has emerged from the guide 23 or 23′ in the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 is kept in the stretched position. To this extent, the guide 23 or 23′ forms a support for the auxiliary stack carrier 20.

In particular for the case where the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is configured by means of individual rodlike supporting elements 20′, in an advantageous refinement said auxiliary stack carrier 20 is connected at its trailing end with respect to the insertion direction in accordance with the direction arrow 21 to an endless flexible drive (in a manner not shown in greater detail), by means of which endless drive the displacement operations of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 between its standby position and its operating position are carried out.

A further advantageous possibility of displacement between the standby position and the operating position is brought about by rolls which are mounted in a fixed position, set against an upper side and against an underside of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 in the region of the guide 23 or 23′ or directly in front of or behind the latter, and of which rolls at least one is driven. In the case of the guide 23 being configured in accordance with fig. 7, the supporting roll 23.4 lying downstream with respect to the insertion direction can be driven, for example. Moreover, a roll drive of this type can be used, as can the abovementioned flexible drive, independently of

whether the auxiliary stack carrier 20 is an auxiliary stack table or individual rodlike supporting elements 20'.

In the case of the guide track 22 being configured in the shape of a circular arc, a motor-actuated pivoting lever arrangement which is articulated at the trailing end of the auxiliary stack carrier 20 can also be provided as an alternative actuating device.

At those sides of the supporting members 26 or 26' which come into contact with the printing materials, the surfaces of said supporting members 26 or 26' are preferably configured such that they can slide along on the printing materials without damaging them.

List of designations

1	Press section
1.1	Printing unit
1.2	Printing unit
1.3	Inking unit
1.4	Damping unit
1.5	Plate cylinder
1.6	Blanket cylinder
1.7	Impression cylinder
1.8	Oscillating pregripper
1.9	Feed drum
1.10	Sheet guiding drum
2	Feeder
2.1	Separating device
2.2	Sheet
2.3	Stack
2.4	Transporting and aligning device
2.5	Platform
2.6	Lifting chain
2.7	Crossmember
3	Deliverer
3.2	Printed product stack
3.3	Platform
3.4	Lowering chain
3.5	Endless conveyor
20	Auxiliary stack carrier
20'	Supporting element
21	Direction arrow
22	Guide track
23, 23'	Guide
23.1	Upper pressure piece arrangement
23.2	Lower pressure piece arrangement
23.3	Clamping roll

23.4	Supporting roll
24	Lifting chain
25	Guide profiles
26, 26'	Supporting member
26.1	End member
27	First joint bore
28	Second joint bore
29	Joint pin
30	First rotary joint
31	Second rotary joint
32	First extension
33	Second extension
34	Recess
35	Aperture
36	Depression
37	Stop
38	First stop surface
39	Second stop surface
40	Gap
41	Aligning surface
B	Width of the supporting member 26'

Patent claims

1. A machine processing flat printing materials, in particular a sheet processing rotary press, having at least one processing station in the form of a printing unit, a feeder which loads the processing station with the sheets, a deliverer that combines the processed sheets into stacks, and an auxiliary stack carrier which can be displaced, in an insertion direction, from a standby position into an operational position and vice versa, and which comprises supporting members which follow one another in the insertion direction and are directly articulated on one another by means of axially parallel rotary joints, characterized in that the supporting members (26; 26') have extensions (32, 33) projecting beyond their rotary joints (30, 31), and a respective extension (33) pointing counter to the insertion direction (21) engages underneath the extension (32) pointing in the insertion direction (21) of the next but one supporting member (26; 26') trailing in the insertion direction (21).

2. The machine as claimed in claim 1, characterized by a guide (23; 23') through which the supporting members (26; 26') are pushed for their intended use, and which guide holds an extension (33), pointing counter to the insertion direction (21) and located in the guide (23; 23'), in contact with the extension (32) pointing in the insertion direction (21) of the next but one supporting member (26; 26') trailing in the insertion direction.

3. The machine as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the guide (23; 23') forms a support for the auxiliary stack carrier (20).

4. The machine as claimed in claim 2, characterized by a guide track (22) on which the auxiliary stack carrier (20) is supported in its standby position.

5. The machine as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the guide track (22) rises convexly and a lower end of said guide track faces the at least one processing station (printing unit 1.1).

6. The machine as claimed in claim 4, characterized by a lifting/lowering unit (24, 25), by means of which it is possible to raise and lower the guide (23; 23') and the guide track (22) jointly.

7. The machine as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the supporting members (26') located in the operating position form an auxiliary stack supporting table.

8. The machine as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the supporting members (26) located in the operating position form individual rodlike supporting elements (20').

Abstract

For a sheet processing rotary press, an auxiliary stack carrier (20) which can be used for non-stop operation is proposed which comprises supporting members (26; 26') which follow one another and are directly articulated on one another by means of axially parallel rotary joints (30, 31), and which can be displaced from a standby position into an operational position and vice versa. The supporting members (26; 26') have extensions (32, 33) projecting beyond their rotary joints (30, 31), of which extensions a respective one pointing counter to the insertion direction (21) engages underneath the extension (32) pointing in the insertion direction (21) of the next but one supporting member (26; 26') trailing in the insertion direction (21). If the extensions (32, 33) are positively kept in mutual contact with supporting members (26; 26') assigned to one another in such a way, then the subsequent downstream (with regard to the insertion direction (21)) supporting members (26; 26') assume a stretched position and this results in an auxiliary stack carrier (20) which it is possible to accommodate, in particular, below a feed table and use conveniently.

(Fig. 1)